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The Latest Novelties in Japanese Silks, 40c, 50c, 60c.

Domestic Department

SWEEPING REDUCTIONS

TOWELS, 1,320 dozen, 50c, 85c, \$1.25, \$1.50, up to \$4.00 dozen.

BEDSPREADS, 60c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50. Best value ever had.

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Prices Not Equalled Elsewhere

LINEN TABLE NAPKINS, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$2.00, to \$4.50. Examine the Quality.

WHITE and UNBLEACHED DAMASK TABLE CLOTH, 25c, to \$1.50 yard.

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Ladies, we have a choice assortment of the newest Millinery Novelties. We can trim to your order an Up-to-Date Stylish Hat at half the price of any other house.

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A Pleasure to Show the Goods

L. B. Kerr & Co
LIMITED.

Queen Street:

PYGMIES OF AFRICA

Spend Their Lives in Hunting and Fishing.

In the Atlantic Monthly for August, Mr. Samuel Phillips Verner has an unusually readable article on "The African Pygmies," whom he has visited and studied in their native town in Central Africa, on the Kasai River, a tributary of the Congo. These are the true pygmies of Herodotus, the fabled dwarfs of Ethiopia. The little folk lived in a city called Ndombe, ruled over by a king of the same name. There are about 5,000 in the city, and 300 more around it. They dwell in little huts shaped like a beehive, with an opening on the side at the bottom, barely large enough to admit their bodies crawling. Although a full grown negro could not even lie down at full length in such a house, one of them suffices for a pygmy and his whole family, sometimes consisting of a wife and half a dozen children.

The pygmies are occupied almost solely in hunting and fishing, their chief weapon being a bow and poisoned arrows. These arrows have no heads except the mere sharpened point of bamboo, but they are dipped into a vegetable decoction which is one of the most fatal poisons known, and which produces insanity or death almost immediately, even if the arrow makes not much more than a scratch.

The pygmy community is ruled by a giant king, Ndombe, who stands six feet six inches in stature, with broad, square shoulders, Herculean limbs, and massive statuesque features of a distinctively Egyptian cast. Mr. Verner says he has never seen the man's physical superior. He has thirty-one wives and over forty children, and his family connections are so extensive that they occupy a whole town. The pygmies themselves, however, do not usually have more than one wife.

The clothing of the little negroes was the most primitive imaginable. The children and some of the women went nude, and the most elaborate costume amounted to nothing more than a yard of palm fiber around their loins, this garment being obtained from the other natives.

The average height of fifty grown men of the Batwa village was fifty-one and seven-eighths inches, or four feet and nearly four inches. Seven of these were less than three feet and nine inches high, and five of them were over four feet six inches. It was very difficult to persuade the women to submit to measurement, but eight of them, mothers of families, averaged forty-seven and three-eighths inches, four inches shorter than the men. The prevalent color was a light chocolate brown. The older men wore scanty beards.

The head of the pygmy is of the brachycephalic order. The mean cranial index of the skulls of eight adult males was eighty-one degrees. The nose was small, but more aquiline than that of the real negro. The mouth was large, and the chin receding. The hair was of a lighter color, almost a shade of brown, and was kinky and woolly. Their hands and feet were small and well shaped, the hands in particular being delicately formed. In proportion to their size, their strength far exceeded that of all the other Africans. Their powers of endurance on the march or in the chase were phenomenal. Fifty miles a day was an ordinary march for them, and they were almost as much at home in the trees as the monkeys themselves. The senses of the pygmies were unusually acute. At quite a distance, they could distinguish the chameleon from the foliage in which it was hidden, notwithstanding the fact that the color of the little animal coincided with that of its hiding-place. Much of their quarry was discovered through the powers of the nose, and it is no exaggeration to say that the pygmies' sense of smell was as keen as that of their dogs. They were such shots with the bow that I have seen one send an arrow through a rat at twenty yards, while it was running across the village. The Bantu would spear fish as they leaped from the water, or darted among the rocks in the streams.

Mr. Verner cites the scientific fact that no traces have been found of any human beings prior to the pygmies. It is certain that the little people have apparently preserved and enjoyed a physical entity for five thousand years. He does not attempt to decide between the various hypotheses as to the origin of the pygmy race, some holding that the ancestors of the pygmies were larger men, and that the present dwarfs are a degenerate race, and others that the pygmies have been unchanged from their creation. It is interesting to know that the Kasai valley has recently been opened to steam navigation, a steamboat for the river having been built at Richmond, Va., and that the ethnologists will have a good opportunity of making a thorough study of the peculiar race of men.

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Will Remove the Loose Dandruff Scales But It Won't Cure Dandruff.

If your hair is brittle and thinning, you have dandruff. The mere scouring of the scalp of the loose scales, won't cure dandruff, because dandruff is nothing but scales of scalp being thrown up by a pestiferous little germ in burrowing its way to the root of the hair where it saps the vitality causing falling hair and, in time baldness. Now you can't stop dandruff, nor falling hair, nor prevent baldness unless you destroy that germ; and the only preparation that can do it is the new scientific discovery, Newbro's Herpicide. In fact no other hair preparation claims to kill the dandruff germ—all of them will clean the scalp, soap and water will do that, but only Newbro's Herpicide gets at the root of the trouble and kills the dandruff germ.

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